GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:651
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
SHORTAGE OF TECHNICAL STAFF
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Government is aware that there is huge shortage of Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs), personnel in fire, engineering and various other departments in different airports in the country as against the increase in air traffic;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether the Government is aware of the difficulties being faced by the employees and the adverse affect on the air traffic; and

(d)The steps taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) : Airports Authority of India has a sanctioned strengths (all categories) of 1753 persons in the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) discipline. However, the actual persons in position are 1313. In Executive Grade the sanctioned strength, actual strength and shortage are as under: General Manager (20, 18 & 2); Additional General Manager / Deputy General Manager (124, 120 & 4); Assistant General Manager / Senior Manager [Regular](342, 334 & 8); Senior Manager(Flexible Complementary Scheme)/Manager (539, 363 & 176); Assistant Manager/Junior Executive Trainee [OLD] (268, 315 & - 47); Junior Executive [Air Traffic Controller] (192, 71 & 121); Total (1485, 1221 & 264).

In Non Executive Grade the sanctioned strength, actual strength and shortage are as under: Senior Superintendent/Senior Assistant (268, 92 & 176); Grand Total (1753, 1313 & 440).

Recently 88 candidates (in 7 batches) selected for the post of Junior Executive (ATC) have been deputed for training to Civil Aviation Training Centre (CATC), Allahabad. The first batch started in April, 2005 and the 7th batch on 2.1.2006, Recruitment action for filling up 88 more posts of Junior Executive (ATC) is in hand.

Inducted batch o f ATCOs after completing their statutory training will b e put on the job training before inducting into regular independent operations.

It is mentioned that, in spite of constraints in filling up the vacancies, there is no compromise on aviation safety. The ATC services in the country are provided as per ICAO norms and guidelines.